United Nations A/68/L.55

General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 33 (b)
Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution

Albania, Angola, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay: draft resolution

Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/283 of 22 June 2011 and 66/291 of 13 September 2012 on strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution, and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions and Security Council resolutions and presidential statements related to mediation and to regional and subregional organizations,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its commitment to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States,

Recalling Chapter VI, including Article 33 of the Charter, and other Articles relevant to mediation, as well as Chapter VIII of the Charter and other Articles relevant to, inter alia, the role of regional and subregional organizations in mediation,

Bearing in mind its responsibilities, functions and powers under the Charter, and thus recalling all its relevant resolutions in matters related to the peaceful

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settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution, including through mediation,

Reaffirming the respective role and authority of the General Assembly and the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter,

Acknowledging the efforts of the Security Council to promote cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution, including through mediation, and encouraging the continued cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, in accordance with the Charter,

Reaffirming its commitment to uphold the sovereign equality of all States, respect for their territorial integrity and political independence and the duty of Member States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and to uphold the resolution of disputes by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, the right to self-determination of peoples which remain under colonial domination or foreign occupation, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the equal rights of all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and the fulfilment in good faith of the obligations assumed in accordance with the Charter,

Bearing in mind that armed and other types of conflicts and terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, and hostage-taking still persist in many parts of the world,

Recalling that the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution, in accordance with the Charter and international law, including through mediation, remain a primary responsibility of Member States without prejudice to Article 36 of the Charter,

Recognizing that responsible and credible mediation requires, inter alia, national ownership, the consent of parties to a particular dispute or conflict, the impartiality of the mediators, their compliance with agreed mandates, respect for national sovereignty, compliance with obligations of States and other relevant actors under international law, including applicable treaties, the operational preparedness, including process and substantive expertise, of the mediators, and coherence, coordination and complementarity of mediation efforts,

Emphasizing that justice and truth is a fundamental building block of sustainable peace,

Appreciating the efforts of the Secretary-General, the Member States, regional and subregional organizations and other relevant actors to promote the use of mediation, and in this regard taking note of the United Nations Guidance for Effective Mediation,[1]

[1] A/66/811, annex I.

Stressing the need for Member States as well as the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations to continue to improve, as appropriate, their capacities in the pacific settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and conflict resolution, including mediation, for sustainable peace,

Recalling the good offices of the Secretary-General, and appreciating his efforts to continue to strengthen United Nations mediation support capacities, in accordance with agreed mandates,

Appreciating the partnerships and cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in the field of mediation and the efforts of the Secretary-General to work together with regional and subregional organizations to strengthen their mediation support capacities, upon request and in accordance with agreed mandates,

Encouraging the Secretary-General to support regional efforts and initiatives by Member States, as well as regional and subregional organizations, to promote mediation and to prevent and resolve conflicts, upon request and in accordance with agreed mandates,

Reaffirming the role of regional and subregional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security, in line with provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter, and taking note of their important role as mediators, within agreed mandates, in many regions, acting with the consent of parties to a particular dispute or conflict,

Acknowledging that regional and subregional organizations can benefit mediation efforts with their specific approaches stemming from their geographic, cultural and historical proximity to, as well as information about, specific local conflict situations within their mandates, and contribute to the prevention and resolution of such conflicts,

Recognizing the importance of the equal and effective participation and the full involvement of women at all levels, at all stages and in all aspects of the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution, as well as the provision of adequate gender expertise for all mediators and their teams, noting that further efforts are necessary to appoint more women as chief or lead peace mediators, and in this context reaffirming the full and effective implementation of all relevant United Nations resolutions, including those on women, peace and security, and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[2] and furthermore welcoming the role of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in this respect,

Recognizing also national and civil society actors active in mediation, and encouraging their contributions and continued coordination to improve complementarity in mediation activities, when appropriate, in this regard,

Welcoming the increasing contribution by the African Union in efforts to settle conflicts of its members, and expressing its support for the peace initiatives conducted by the African regional and subregional organizations,

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[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

1. *Reiterates* that all Member States should strictly adhere to their obligations as laid down in the Charter of the United Nations, including in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution;

2. *Welcomes* the contributions of Member States, as well as of the United Nations and of regional and subregional organizations, to mediation efforts, as appropriate;

3. *Invites* Member States, as well as the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, to continue to optimize the use of mediation and other tools mentioned in Chapter VI of the Charter for the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution;

4. *Encourages* Member States, as well as the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, to continue to develop, where appropriate, their mediation capacities in the pacific settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and conflict resolution;

5. *Also encourages* Member States, as well as the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, to increase the awareness on the importance of mediation, as appropriate, through, inter alia, the organization of conferences, seminars and workshops, and in this regard welcomes regional initiatives to strengthen mediation in their regions, such as the "Mediation in the Mediterranean Initiative";

6. *Encourages* the use, as appropriate, of the United Nations Guidance for Effective Mediation in mediation efforts, in accordance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter;

7. *Encourages* Member States and regional and subregional organizations to promote equal, full and effective participation of women in all forums and at all levels of the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution, particularly the decision-making level;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to appoint women as chief or lead mediators and as members of mediation teams in United Nations-sponsored peace processes, as well as to ensure adequate gender expertise for all United Nations processes, and invites similar efforts by Member States as well as by regional and subregional organizations;

9. *Encourages* Member States, as appropriate, to use the mediation capacities of the United Nations as well as those of regional and subregional organizations, where applicable, and to promote mediation in their bilateral and multilateral relations;

10. *Invites* all Member States to consider providing sustained political support, expertise and timely and adequate resources, including through the United Nations, for mediation and, as appropriate, for the implementation of agreed outcomes of mediation processes, in order to assure their success, as well as for mediation capacity-building activities of the United Nations and of regional and subregional organizations;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to offer his good offices, in accordance with the Charter and relevant United Nations resolutions, and to provide mediation support, where appropriate, to special representatives and envoys of the

United Nations as well as to Member States and regional and subregional organizations, upon request;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to work with Member States and relevant regional and subregional organizations, upon request and in accordance with agreed mandates, in mediation capacity-building for the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution, including through training events and staff exchanges;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations to regularly hold dialogues on mediation upon mutually agreed agendas, exchange views, information and lessons learned and improve cooperation, coordination, coherence and complementarity in specific mediation contexts, in accordance with agreed mandates and as appropriate;

14. *Stresses* the importance of partnerships and cooperation of international, regional and subregional organizations with the United Nations, with each other, and with civil society, and of developing mechanisms to improve information sharing, cooperation and coordination, in order to ensure the coherence and complementarity of efforts of actors involved in a specific mediation context;

15. *Emphasizes* the importance of facilitating interaction by mediators between concerned parties and other stakeholders, as appropriate, as well as inclusive national processes in the implementation of the agreed outcomes of mediation processes;

16. *Welcomes* the efforts of regional and subregional organizations that have developed their mediation and conflict prevention and resolution capacities, structures and policy frameworks, and encourages other interested organizations, as mandated by their Member States, to make similar efforts, as appropriate;

17. *Encourages* regional and subregional organizations to appoint, as appropriate, mediation focal points and to regularly communicate their contact information to the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to maintain and share this information with Member States and regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session on cooperation between the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations on mediation, as well as possible ways to enhance such cooperation, and to hold regular briefings in order to promote closer consultation with Member States as well as regional and subregional organizations and to increase transparency;

19. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to brief Member States on mediation activities of the United Nations;

20. *Encourages* regional and subregional organizations to further enhance their informal thematic exchange with the Member States on mediation-related issues, as appropriate and in accordance with the Charter;

21. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of "Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution" at its seventieth session.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 33 (b)
Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution

Albania, Angola, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay: draft resolution

Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Afghanistan, Australia, Bahrain, Belize, Cameroon, Congo, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, France, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malta, Mongolia, Nigeria, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Samoa, Serbia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago and Ukraine

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United Nations A/68/L.56

General Assembly

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4 August 2014

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 67 (b)
Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance: comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 68/237 of 23 December 2013, by which it proclaimed the International Decade for People of African Descent, commencing on 1 January 2015 and ending on 31 December 2024, with the theme "People of African descent: recognition, justice and development", to be officially launched immediately following the general debate of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, and to this end emphasizing the opportunity for achieving important synergy in the combating of all the scourges of racism through the effective observance of the International Decade for People of African Descent, and in this regard contributing to the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[1]

Recalling also its resolution 64/169 of 18 December 2009, by which it proclaimed 2011 as the International Year for People of African Descent, bearing in mind the primacy of building on the gains achieved during the implementation of the programme of activities for the International Year for People of African Descent and, to this end, recalling paragraph 61 of its resolution 66/144 of 19 December 2011, by which it encouraged the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent to develop a programme of action, including a theme, for adoption by the Human Rights Council, with a view to proclaiming the International Decade for People of African Descent before the end of 2013,

Recalling further its resolution 52/111 of 12 December 1997, by which it decided to convene the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and its resolutions 56/266 of 27 March 2002, 57/195 of 18 December 2002, 58/160 of 22 December 2003, 59/177 of 20 December 2004 and 60/144 of 16 December 2005, which guided the comprehensive follow-up

[1] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

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to the World Conference and the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

Cognizant of its resolution 62/122 of 17 December 2007, by which it designated 25 March as the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade,

Committed to upholding human dignity and equality for the victims of slavery, the slave trade and colonialism, in particular people of African descent in the African diaspora,

Welcoming the work undertaken by the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action on the elaboration of a draft programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent,

Taking note of the report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action on the elaboration of a draft programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent,[2]

1. *Adopts* the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Urges* States to ensure that activities and objectives for the Decade are planned and implemented in accordance with paragraph 10 of the programme of activities for the International Decade for People of African Descent on the basis of full consultation and collaboration with people of African descent;

3. *Decides* to appoint the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to act as coordinator of the Decade in order to follow up on the implementation of activities in the framework of the Decade;

4. *Requests* States and encourages relevant human rights bodies, organs and mechanisms of the United Nations, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, international, regional, subregional and non-governmental organizations, including organizations of people of African descent, national human rights institutions, and other stakeholders to develop and implement specific action-oriented activities in their areas of competence;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit annually a progress report on the implementation of the activities of the Decade;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to allocate predictable funding from the regular budget of the United Nations for the effective implementation of the programme of activities for the Decade, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose;

7. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene a mid-term review to take stock of the progress made and decide on further necessary actions before the seventy-fourth session of the Assembly;

[2] A/HRC/26/55.

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene a final assessment of the Decade to take place within the framework of a high-level international event, marking the closure of the International Decade for People of African Descent;

9. *Decides* to officially launch the International Decade for People of African Descent in accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/237 immediately following the general debate of the sixty-ninth session with the requisite global visibility and appropriate profiling, whose modalities shall be coordinated by the President of the General Assembly in consultation with Member States.

Annex

Programme of Activities for the Implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent

I. Introduction

A. Background

1. The International Decade for People of African Descent, to be observed from 2015 to 2024, constitutes an auspicious period of history when the United Nations, Member States, civil society and all other relevant actors will join together with people of African descent and take effective measures for the implementation of the programme of activities in the spirit of recognition, justice and development. The programme of activities recognizes that the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action is a comprehensive United Nations framework and a solid foundation for combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and represents a new stage in the efforts of the United Nations and the international community to restore the rights and dignity of people of African descent.

2. The implementation of the programme of activities for the International Decade is an integral part of the full and effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and in compliance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination as the principal international instruments for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. Important synergies should therefore be achieved through the International Decade in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

3. The Durban Declaration and Programme of Action acknowledged that people of African descent were victims of slavery, the slave trade and colonialism, and continue to be victims of their consequences. The Durban process raised the visibility of people of African descent and contributed to a substantive advancement in the promotion and protection of their rights as a result of concrete actions taken by States, the United Nations, other international and regional bodies and civil society.

4. Regrettably, despite the above-mentioned advances, racism and racial discrimination, both direct and indirect, de facto and de jure, continue to manifest themselves in inequality and disadvantage. People of African descent throughout the world, whether as descendants of the victims of the transatlantic slave trade or as more recent migrants, constitute some of the poorest and most marginalized groups. Studies and findings by international and national bodies demonstrate that people of African descent still have limited access to quality education, health services, housing and social security. In many cases, their situation remains largely invisible, and insufficient recognition and respect has been given to the efforts of people of African descent to seek redress for their present condition. They all too often experience discrimination in their access to justice, and face alarmingly high rates of police violence, together with racial profiling. Furthermore, their degree of political participation is often low, both in voting and in occupying political positions.

5. People of African descent can suffer from multiple, aggravated or intersecting forms of discrimination based on other related grounds, such as age, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, social origin, property, disability, birth, or other status.

6. The promotion and protection of human rights of people of African descent should be a priority concern for the United Nations. In this regard, the International Decade for People of African Descent is a timely and important initiative, a unique opportunity to underline the important contribution made by people of African descent to our societies and to propose concrete measures to promote their full inclusion and to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

B. Theme of the International Decade

7. As proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/237, the theme for the International Decade is "People of African descent: recognition, justice and development".

C. Objectives of the International Decade

8. Non-discrimination and equality before and of the law constitute fundamental principles of international human rights law, and underpin the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the main international human rights treaties and instruments. As such, the main objective of the International Decade should be to promote respect, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by people of African descent, as recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This main objective can be achieved through the full and effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, the political declaration commemorating the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and through the universal accession to or ratification of, and full implementation of the obligations arising under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and other relevant international and regional human rights instruments.

9. The International Decade shall focus on the following specific objectives:

(a) To strengthen national, regional and international action and cooperation in relation to the full enjoyment of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights by people of African descent, and their full and equal participation in all aspects of society;

(b) To promote a greater knowledge of and respect for the diverse heritage, culture and contribution of people of African descent to the development of societies;

(c) To adopt and strengthen national, regional and international legal frameworks in accordance with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and to ensure their full and effective implementation.

II. Activities to be conducted during the International Decade

A. National level

10. States should take concrete and practical steps through the adoption and effective implementation of national and international legal frameworks, policies and programmes to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance faced by people of African descent, taking into account the particular situation of women, girls and young males, by, inter alia, the activities described below.

1. Recognition

(a) The right to equality and non-discrimination

11. States should:

(a) Remove all obstacles that prevent their equal enjoyment of all human rights, economic, social, cultural, civil and political, including the right to development;

(b) Promote the effective implementation of national and international legal frameworks;

(c) Withdraw reservations contrary to the object and purpose of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and consider withdrawing other reservations;

(d) Undertake a comprehensive review of domestic legislation with a view to identifying and abolishing provisions that entail direct or indirect discrimination;

(e) Adopt or strengthen comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation and ensure its effective implementation;

(f) Provide effective protection for people of African descent, and review and repeal all laws that have a discriminatory effect on people of African descent facing multiple, aggravated or intersecting forms of discrimination;

(g) Adopt, strengthen and implement action-oriented policies, programmes and projects to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance designed to ensure full and equal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by people of African descent; States are also encouraged to elaborate national plans of action to promote diversity, equality, equity, social justice, equality of opportunity and the participation of all;

(h) Establish and/or strengthen national mechanisms or institutions with a view to formulating, monitoring and implementing policies to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and promoting racial equality, with the participation of representatives of civil society;

(i) As appropriate, establish and/or strengthen independent national human rights institutions, in conformity with the Paris Principles, and/or similar mechanisms with the participation of civil society, and provide them with adequate financial resources, competence and capacity for protection, promotion and monitoring to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

(b) Education on equality and awareness-raising

12. States should:

(a) Celebrate the launch of the International Decade at the national level, and develop national programmes of action and activities for the full and effective implementation of the Decade;

(b) Organize national conferences and other events aimed at triggering an open debate and raising awareness on the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including government, civil society representatives and individuals or groups of individuals who are victims;

(c) Promote greater knowledge and recognition of and respect for the culture, history and heritage of people of African descent, including through research and education, and promote full and accurate inclusion of the history and contribution of people of African descent in educational curricula;

(d) Promote the positive role that political leaders and political parties, leaders of religious communities and the media could further play in fighting racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance by, inter alia, publicly recognizing and respecting the culture, history and heritage of people of African descent;

(e) Raise awareness through information and education measures with a view to restoring the dignity of people of African descent, and consider making available the support for such activities to non-governmental organizations;

(f) Support education and training initiatives for non-governmental organizations and people of African descent in the use of the tools provided by international human rights instruments relating to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(g) Ensure that textbooks and other educational materials reflect historical facts accurately as they relate to past tragedies and atrocities, in particular slavery, the slave trade, the transatlantic slave trade and colonialism, so as to avoid stereotypes and the distortion or falsification of these historic facts, which may lead to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including the role of respective countries therein, by:

(i) Supporting research and educational initiatives;

(ii) Giving recognition to the victims and their descendants through the establishment of memorial sites in countries that profited from and/or were responsible for slavery, the slave trade, the transatlantic slave trade and colonialism and past tragedies where there is none, as well as at departure, arrival and relocation points, and by protecting related cultural sites.

(c) Information-gathering

13. In accordance with paragraph 92 of the Durban Programme of Action, States should collect, compile, analyse, disseminate and publish reliable statistical data at the national and local levels, and take all other related measures necessary to assess regularly the situation of people of African descent who are victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

14. Such statistical data should be disaggregated in accordance with national legislation, upholding the right to privacy and the principle of self-identification.

15. The information should be collected to monitor the situation of people of African descent, assess progress made, increase their visibility, and identify social gaps. It should also be used to assess and guide the formulation of policies and actions to prevent, combat and eradicate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

(d) Participation and inclusion

16. States should adopt measures to enable the full, equal and effective participation of people of African descent in public and political affairs without discrimination, in accordance with international human rights law.

2. Justice

(a) Access to justice

17. States should take further measures, by:

(a) Introducing measures to ensure equality before the law, notably in the enjoyment of the right to equal treatment before the tribunals and all other organs administering justice;

(b) Designing, implementing and enforcing effective measures to eliminate the phenomenon popularly known as "racial profiling";

(c) Eliminating institutionalized stereotypes concerning people of African descent and applying appropriate sanctions against law enforcement officials who act on the basis of racial profiling;

(d) Ensuring that people of African descent have full access to effective protection and remedies through the competent national tribunals and other State institutions against any acts of racial discrimination, and the right to seek from such tribunals just and adequate reparation or satisfaction for any damage suffered as a result of such discrimination;

(e) Adopting effective and appropriate measures, including legal measures as appropriate, to combat all acts of racism, in particular the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, incitement to racial hatred, violence or incitement to racial violence, as well as racist propaganda activities and participation in racist organizations; States are also encouraged to ensure that such motivations are considered an aggravating factor for the purpose of sentencing;

(f) Facilitating access to justice for people of African descent who are victims of racism by providing the requisite legal information about their rights, and providing legal assistance when appropriate;

(g) Preventing and punishing all human rights violations affecting people of African descent, including violence, acts of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment, including those committed by State officials;

(h) Ensuring that people of African descent, like all other persons, enjoy all the guarantees of a fair trial and equality before the law as enshrined in relevant international human rights instruments, and specifically the right to the presumption

of innocence, the right to assistance of counsel and to an interpreter, the right to an independent and impartial tribunal, guarantees of justice, and all the rights to which prisoners are entitled;

(i) Acknowledging and profoundly regretting the untold suffering and evils inflicted on millions of men, women and children as a result of slavery, the slave trade, the transatlantic slave trade, colonialism, apartheid, genocide and past tragedies, noting that some States have taken the initiative to apologize and have paid reparation, where appropriate, for grave and massive violations committed, and calling on those that have not yet expressed remorse or presented apologies to find some way to contribute to the restoration of the dignity of victims;

(j) Inviting the international community and its members to honour the memory of the victims of these tragedies with a view to closing those dark chapters in history and as a means of reconciliation and healing; further noting that some have taken the initiative of regretting or expressing remorse or presenting apologies, and calling on all those that have not yet contributed to restoring the dignity of the victims to find appropriate ways to do so and, to this end, appreciating those countries that have done so;

(k) Calling upon all States concerned to take appropriate and effective measures to halt and reverse the lasting consequences of those practices, bearing in mind their moral obligations.

(b) Special measures

18. The adoption of special measures, such as affirmative action, where appropriate, is essential to alleviating and remedying disparities in the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms affecting people of African descent, protecting them from discrimination and overcoming persistent or structural disparities and de facto inequalities resulting from historical circumstances. As such, States should develop or elaborate national plans of action to promote diversity, equality, social justice, equality of opportunity and the participation of all. By means of, inter alia, affirmative or positive actions and strategies, these plans should aim at creating conditions for all to participate effectively in decision-making and to realize civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights in all spheres of life on the basis of non-discrimination.

3. Development

(a) Right to development and measures against poverty

19. Consistent with the Declaration on the Right to Development, States should adopt measures aimed at guaranteeing active, free and meaningful participation by all individuals, including people of African descent, in development and decision-making related thereto and in the fair distribution of benefits resulting therefrom.

20. Recognizing that poverty is both a cause and a consequence of discrimination, States should, as appropriate, adopt or strengthen national programmes for eradicating poverty and reducing social exclusion that take account of the specific needs and experiences of people of African descent, and should also expand their efforts to foster bilateral, regional and international cooperation in implementing those programmes.

21. States should implement actions to protect ancestral groups of people of African descent.

(b) Education

22. States should take all necessary measures to give effect to the right of people of African descent, particularly children and young people, to free primary education and access to all levels and forms of quality public education without discrimination. States should:

(a) Ensure that quality education is accessible and available in areas where communities of African descent live, particularly in rural and marginalized communities, with attention to improving the quality of public education;

(b) Take measures to ensure that public and private education systems do not discriminate against or exclude children of African descent, and that they are protected from direct or indirect discrimination, negative stereotyping, stigmatization and violence from peers or teachers; to this end, training and sensitization should be provided to teachers and measures should be taken to increase the number of teachers of African descent working in educational institutions.

(c) Employment

23. States should take concrete measures to eliminate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in the workplace against all workers, in particular people of African descent, including migrants, and ensure the full equality of all before the law, including labour law, and eliminate barriers, where appropriate, to participation in vocational training, collective bargaining, employment, contracts and trade union activity; access to judicial and administrative tribunals dealing with grievances; seeking employment in different parts of their country of residence; and working in safe and healthy conditions.

(d) Health

24. States should take measures to improve access to quality health services to people of African descent.

(e) Housing

25. Recognizing the poor and insecure housing conditions in which many people of African descent live, States should develop and implement policies and projects as appropriate aimed at, inter alia, ensuring that they gain and sustain a safe and secure home and community in which to live in peace and dignity.

4. Multiple or aggravated discrimination

26. States should adopt and implement policies and programmes that provide effective protection for, and review and repeal all policies and laws that could discriminate against, people of African descent facing multiple, aggravated or intersecting forms of discrimination based on other related grounds, such as sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, social origin, property, birth, disability or other status.

27. States should mainstream a gender perspective when designing and monitoring public policies, taking into account the specific needs and realities of women and girls of African descent, including in the area of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences, and ensure adequate access to maternal health care.

B. Regional and international levels

1. Steps to be taken by the international community and international and regional organizations

28. The international community, international and regional organizations, in particular relevant United Nations programmes, funds, specialized agencies and other bodies, international financial and development institutions, and other international mechanisms within their areas of competence should give high priority to programmes and projects specifically tailored for combating racism and racial discrimination against people of African descent, taking fully into account the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and, should, inter alia:

(a) Take measures to raise awareness about the International Decade, including through awareness-raising campaigns, and organizing and supporting other activities, bearing in mind the theme of the Decade;

(b) Continue to disseminate widely the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

(c) Continue to raise awareness about the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

(d) Assist States in the full and effective implementation of the obligations arising under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and in ratifying or acceding to the Convention, with a view to attaining its universal ratification;

(e) Assist States in the full and effective implementation of their commitments under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

(f) Incorporate human rights into development programmes, including in the areas of access to and enjoyment of the rights to education, employment, health, housing, land and labour;

(g) Assign particular priority to the projects devoted to the collection of statistical data;

(h) Support initiatives and projects aimed at honouring and preserving the historical memory of people of African descent;

(i) Use the Decade as an opportunity to engage with people of African descent on appropriate and effective measures to halt and reverse the lasting consequences of slavery, the slave trade and the transatlantic slave trade in captured African people and, to this end, ensure the participation of and consultation with non-governmental organizations, other stakeholders and civil society at large;

(j) In planning activities for the Decade, examine how existing programmes and resources might be utilized to benefit people of African descent more effectively;

(k) Give due consideration to the goals and objectives aimed at the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against people of African descent in the discussions held by the United Nations on the post-2015 development agenda.

2. Steps and measures to be taken by the General Assembly

29. The General Assembly should:

(a) Appoint the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to act as coordinator of the Decade in order to follow up on the implementation of activities in the framework of the Decade;

(b) Request the Secretary-General to submit an annual progress report on the implementation of activities of the Decade, taking into account information and views provided by States, relevant human rights bodies, organs and mechanisms of the United Nations, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, international, regional, subregional and non-governmental organizations, including organizations of people of African descent, national human rights institutions and other stakeholders;

(c) Request the Department of Public Information, in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and regional and subregional organizations to launch an awareness-raising campaign to inform the general public of the history, contributions, including to the global development, challenges, contemporary experiences and situation of human rights of people of African descent;

(d) Encourage the issuance of a stamp by the United Nations postal administration on the International Decade for People of African Descent;

(e) Invite regional and subregional organizations, specialized agencies, United Nations programmes, funds and offices to develop studies in their respective areas of competence and expertise, and to report on the themes of the Decade; such studies could be used to inform a mid-term review of the Decade to monitor the progress made, share learning practices among key actors and inform plans and policies for the remaining five years of the Decade and beyond;

(f) Request the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue and strengthen its fellowship programme for people of African descent during the Decade;

(g) Request the Office of the High Commissioner to include a section on the anti-discrimination database on the International Decade for People of African Descent;

(h) Request States to consider adopting measures to further promote and protect the human rights of people of African descent as enshrined in international human rights instruments, including through the elaboration of a draft United Nations declaration on the promotion and full respect of human rights of people of African descent;

(i) Decides to establish a forum to serve as a consultation mechanism, to be provided by one of the existing Durban follow-up mechanisms such as the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent or the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and in this regard requests the Human Rights Council to allocate two or three days of the annual sessions of one of these mechanisms that shall be devoted to this purpose and that would ensure the inclusive participation of all States Members of the United Nations, United Nations funds and programmes, specialized agencies, civil society organizations of people of African descent and all other relevant stakeholders;

(j) Request the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to further increase and strengthen support for the relevant mechanisms of the Human Rights Council in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in the context of the Decade;

(k) Encourage all States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, private institutions and individuals, as well as other donors in a position to do so, to contribute generously to the trust fund for the programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination with a view to contributing to the successful implementation of the programme;

(l) Request the Secretary-General to accord high priority to executing the programme of activities for the Decade, and to allocate predictable funding from the regular budget and from extrabudgetary resources of the United Nations to the effective implementation of the programme of action and activities of the Decade;

(m) Keep the Decade under review, and convene a mid-term review to take stock of the progress made and decide on further necessary actions;

(n) Convene a final assessment of the Decade, to be held within the framework of a high-level international event, marking the closure of the International Decade for People of African Descent.

(o) Ensure the completion of the construction and the inauguration, before the mid-term review in 2020, of a permanent memorial at United Nations Headquarters to honour the memory of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade.

United Nations A/68/L.57

General Assembly

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15 August 2014

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 14
Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Bolivia (Plurinational State of): * draft resolution

Towards a multilateral convention to establish a legal regulatory framework for sovereign debt restructuring processes

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted on 8 September 2000,[1] and the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[2]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[3] and the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,[4]

Recalling further the International Conference on Financing for Development and its outcome document,[5] in which sustainable debt financing is recognized as an important element for mobilizing resources for public and private investment, and the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and its outcome document, the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[6] as well as resolution 68/204 of 20 December 2013,

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* On behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 55/2.

[2] Resolution 65/1.

[3] Resolution 60/1.

[4] Resolution 60/265.

[5] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] Resolution 63/239, annex.

14-59380 (E) 200814

Please recycle

Recalling its resolution 68/279 of 10 July 2014, on the convening of the third International Conference on Financing for Development to assess the progress made in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration, reinvigorate and strengthen the financing for development follow-up process, identify obstacles and constraints encountered in the achievement of the goals and objectives agreed therein, as well as actions and initiatives to overcome these constraints, and address new and emerging issues, including in the context of the recent multilateral efforts to promote international development cooperation, taking into account the current evolving development cooperation landscape, the interrelationship of all sources of development finance, the synergies among financing objectives across the three dimensions of sustainable development, as well as the need to support the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015,

Recalling also the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[7]

Recalling further its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009, in which it endorsed the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, held in New York from 24 to 30 June 2009,

Stressing the need to reinforce coherence and coordination and to avoid duplication of efforts with regard to the financing for development process,

Taking note of the report of the Commission of Experts on Reform of the International Monetary and Financial System, convened by the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-third session,[8]

Recalling its resolutions 58/203 of 23 December 2003, 59/223 of 22 December 2004, 60/187 of 22 December 2005, 61/188 of 20 December 2006, 62/186 of 19 December 2007, 63/206 of 19 December 2008, 64/191 of 21 December 2009, 65/144 of 20 December 2010, 66/189 of 22 December 2011, 67/198 of 21 December 2012 and 68/202, of 20 December 2013,

Noting that sovereign debt crises are a recurring problem that involves very serious political, economic and social consequences, and that the restructuring processes of sovereign debt are a frequent phenomenon in the international financial system,

Noting with concern that there remain a number of low- and middle-income developing countries that are still facing difficulties in finding a durable solution to their external debt problems, which could adversely affect their sustainable development,

Recognizing that addressing the sovereign debt problems of developing countries is an important part of international cooperation,

Stressing the importance for developing countries, on a case-by-case basis, of debt relief, including debt cancellation, as appropriate, and debt restructuring as debt crisis prevention and management tools,

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[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[8] See A/63/838.

Stressing also the need to work towards the establishment of responsible and preventive financial crisis policies to enhance transparent and sustainable national financial systems,

Recognizing the sovereign right of any State to restructure its sovereign debt, which should not be frustrated or impeded by any measure emanating from another State,

Recognizing also that a State's efforts to restructure its sovereign debt should not be frustrated or impeded by commercial creditors, including specialized investor funds such as hedge funds, which seek to undertake speculative purchases of its distressed debt at deeply discounted rates on secondary markets in order to pursue full payment via litigation,

Noting that private creditors of sovereign debt are increasingly numerous, anonymous and difficult to coordinate and that there are a variety of debt instruments and a wide range of jurisdictions in which debt is issued, thus complicating the restructuring of sovereign debt,

Noting also the concern expressed in the declaration of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Group of 77 and China on the theme "For a New World Order for Living Well", held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Plurinational State of Bolivia, on 14 and 15 June 2014, concerning the so-called "vulture funds" and their actions of a highly speculative nature, which pose a risk to all future debt restructuring processes, for both developing and developed countries,

Taking into account the initiatives studied in the framework of the International Development Association of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to address the activities of the so-called "vulture funds", with the objective of, inter alia, preventing such funds from benefiting from litigation initiated against indebted countries, which are forced to divert many of their resources to handle such litigation, thereby undermining the purpose of the debt restructuring processes,

Recalling, among other things, the work carried out by the International Monetary Fund in 2003, with the support of the International Monetary and Financial Committee, to formulate a proposal for a sovereign debt restructuring mechanism,

Stressing importance of the Principles on Promoting Responsible Sovereign Lending and Borrowing issued by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on 4 May 2011, which aim to reduce the prevalence of sovereign debt crises, prevent unsustainable debt situations, maintain steady economic growth and help achieve the Millennium Development Goals, encouraging to that end responsible sovereign borrowing,

Stressing also the need to continue to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and the need for continuing efforts to reform and strengthen the international financial system,

Noting with concern that the international financial system does not have a sound legal framework for the orderly and predictable restructuring of sovereign debt, which further increases the cost of non-compliance,

Recognizing the need to create a legal framework that facilitates the orderly restructuring of sovereign debts, allows the re-establishment of viability and growth without creating incentives that inadvertently increase the risk of non-compliance and acts as a deterrent to disruptive litigation that creditors could engage in during negotiations to restructure sovereign debts,

Stressing, in this context, the importance of establishing a clear set of principles for the management and resolution of financial crises that take into account the obligation of sovereign creditors to act in good faith and with a cooperative spirit to reach a consensual rearrangement of the debt of sovereign States,

Recognizing that debt-restructuring processes should have as their core element a determination of real payment capacity so that they do not adversely affect economic growth and the fulfilment of the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals, the sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda,

Stressing that, in the restructuring of sovereign debt, the progressive development and codification of international law are necessary in order to make it a more effective means to implement the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to give greater importance to its role in the relations among States,

1. *Emphasizes* the special importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries in order to promote their inclusive economic growth and development;

2. *Calls for* the intensification of efforts to prevent debt crises by enhancing international financial mechanisms for crisis prevention and resolution, in cooperation with the private sector, with a view to finding solutions acceptable to all;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions and the private sector, to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt sustainability of developing countries;

4. *Recognizes* the roles of the United Nations and the international financial institutions in accordance with their respective mandates, and encourages them to continue to support global efforts towards sustainable development and a durable solution to the problem of the debt of developing countries;

5. *Expresses its determination* to adopt, as a matter of priority during its sixty-ninth session, a multilateral convention establishing a legal regulatory framework for sovereign debt restructuring processes, with the aim of increasing the efficiency, stability and predictability of the international financial system, without adversely affecting economic growth and the fulfillment of the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals, the sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda;

6. *Decides* to define the modalities for the negotiation and adoption of the text of the multilateral convention before the end of 2014.

United Nations A/68/L.57/Rev.1

General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 14
Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Bolivia (Plurinational State of):* revised draft resolution

Towards the establishment of a multilateral legal framework for sovereign debt restructuring processes

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted on 8 September 2000,[1] and the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[2]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[3] and the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,[4]

Recalling further the International Conference on Financing for Development and its outcome document,[5] in which sustainable debt financing is recognized as an important element for mobilizing resources for public and private investment, and the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and its outcome document, the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[6] as well as resolution 68/204 of 20 December 2013,

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* On behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 55/2.

[2] Resolution 65/1.

[3] Resolution 60/1.

[4] Resolution 60/265.

[5] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] Resolution 63/239, annex.

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Please recycle

Recalling its resolution 68/279 of 10 July 2014, on the convening of the third International Conference on Financing for Development to assess the progress made in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration, reinvigorate and strengthen the financing for development follow-up process, identify obstacles and constraints encountered in the achievement of the goals and objectives agreed therein, as well as actions and initiatives to overcome these constraints, and address new and emerging issues, including in the context of the recent multilateral efforts to promote international development cooperation, taking into account the current evolving development cooperation landscape, the interrelationship of all sources of development finance, the synergies among financing objectives across the three dimensions of sustainable development, as well as the need to support the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015,

Recalling also the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[7]

Recalling further its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009, in which it endorsed the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, held in New York from 24 to 30 June 2009,

Stressing the need to reinforce coherence and coordination and to avoid duplication of efforts with regard to the financing for development process,

Taking note of the report of the Commission of Experts on Reform of the International Monetary and Financial System, convened by the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-third session,[8]

Recalling its resolutions 58/203 of 23 December 2003, 59/223 of 22 December 2004, 60/187 of 22 December 2005, 61/188 of 20 December 2006, 62/186 of 19 December 2007, 63/206 of 19 December 2008, 64/191 of 21 December 2009, 65/144 of 20 December 2010, 66/189 of 22 December 2011, 67/198 of 21 December 2012 and 68/202 of 20 December 2013,

Noting that sovereign debt crises are a recurring problem that involves very serious political, economic and social consequences, and that the restructuring processes of sovereign debt are a frequent phenomenon in the international financial system,

Noting with concern that there remain a number of low- and middle-income developing countries that are still facing difficulties in finding a durable solution to their external debt problems, which could adversely affect their sustainable development,

Recognizing that addressing the sovereign debt problems of developing countries is an important part of international cooperation,

Stressing the importance for developing countries, on a case-by-case basis, of debt relief, including debt cancellation, as appropriate, and debt restructuring as debt crisis prevention and management tools,

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[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[8] See A/63/838.

Stressing also the need to work towards the establishment of responsible and preventive financial crisis policies to enhance transparent and sustainable national financial systems,

Recognizing the sovereign right of any State to restructure its sovereign debt, which should not be frustrated or impeded by any measure emanating from another State,

Recognizing also that a State's efforts to restructure its sovereign debt should not be frustrated or impeded by commercial creditors, including specialized investor funds such as hedge funds, which seek to undertake speculative purchases of its distressed debt at deeply discounted rates on secondary markets in order to pursue full payment via litigation,

Noting that private creditors of sovereign debt are increasingly numerous, anonymous and difficult to coordinate and that there are a variety of debt instruments and a wide range of jurisdictions in which debt is issued, thus complicating the restructuring of sovereign debt,

Noting also the concern expressed in the declaration of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Group of 77 and China on the theme "For a New World Order for Living Well", held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Plurinational State of Bolivia, on 14 and 15 June 2014, concerning the so-called "vulture funds" and their actions of a highly speculative nature, which pose a risk to all future debt restructuring processes, for both developing and developed countries,

Taking into account the initiatives studied in the framework of the International Development Association of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to address the activities of the so-called "vulture funds", with the objective of, inter alia, preventing such funds from benefiting from litigation initiated against indebted countries, which are forced to divert many of their resources to handle such litigation, thereby undermining the purpose of the debt restructuring processes,

Recalling, among other things, the work carried out by the International Monetary Fund in 2003, with the support of the International Monetary and Financial Committee, to formulate a proposal for a sovereign debt restructuring mechanism,

Stressing the importance of the Principles on Promoting Responsible Sovereign Lending and Borrowing issued by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on 4 May 2011, which aim to reduce the prevalence of sovereign debt crises, prevent unsustainable debt situations, maintain steady economic growth and help achieve the Millennium Development Goals, encouraging to that end responsible sovereign borrowing,

Stressing also the need to continue to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and the need for continuing efforts to reform and strengthen the international financial system,

Noting with concern that the international financial system does not have a sound legal framework for the orderly and predictable restructuring of sovereign debt, which further increases the cost of non-compliance,

Recognizing the need to create a legal framework that facilitates the orderly restructuring of sovereign debts, allows the re-establishment of viability and growth without creating incentives that inadvertently increase the risk of non-compliance and acts as a deterrent to disruptive litigation that creditors could engage in during negotiations to restructure sovereign debts,

Stressing, in this context, the importance of establishing a clear set of principles for the management and resolution of financial crises that take into account the obligation of sovereign creditors to act in good faith and with a cooperative spirit to reach a consensual rearrangement of the debt of sovereign States,

Recognizing that debt-restructuring processes should have as their core element a determination of real payment capacity so that they do not adversely affect economic growth and the fulfilment of the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals, the sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda,

Stressing that, in the restructuring of sovereign debt, the progressive development and codification of international law are necessary in order to make it a more effective means to implement the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to give greater importance to its role in the relations among States,

1. *Emphasizes* the special importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries in order to promote their inclusive economic growth and development;

2. *Calls for* the intensification of efforts to prevent debt crises by enhancing international financial mechanisms for crisis prevention and resolution, in cooperation with the private sector, with a view to finding solutions acceptable to all;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions and the private sector, to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt sustainability of developing countries;

4. *Recognizes* the roles of the United Nations and the international financial institutions in accordance with their respective mandates, and encourages them to continue to support global efforts towards sustainable development and a durable solution to the problem of the debt of developing countries;

5. *Decides* to elaborate and adopt through a process of intergovernmental negotiations, as a matter of priority during its sixty-ninth session, a multilateral legal framework for sovereign debt restructuring processes with a view, inter alia, to increasing the efficiency, stability and predictability of the international financial system and achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with national circumstances and priorities;

6. *Also decides* to define the modalities for the intergovernmental negotiations and the adoption of the text of the multilateral legal framework at the main part of its sixty-ninth session, before the end of 2014.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 67 (b)
Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance: comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Draft decision submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent

The General Assembly, recalling its resolution 68/237 of 23 December 2013, in which it proclaimed the International Decade for People of African Descent, commencing on 1 January 2015 and ending on 31 December 2024, with the theme "People of African descent: recognition, justice and development", to be officially launched immediately following the general debate of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, and to this end emphasizing the opportunity for achieving important synergy in combating all the scourges of racism through the effective observance of the International Decade and in this regard contributing to the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[1] decides to defer consideration of and action on draft resolution A/68/L.56 to its sixty-ninth session in order to allow time for further consultations on the programme budget implications of the proposal.[2]

[1] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.
[2] See A/68/977.

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Please recycle

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General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 75
Report of the International Criminal Court

Argentina, Australia, Japan, Netherlands, South Africa and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Report of the International Criminal Court

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 67/295 of 22 August 2013 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[1] reaffirms the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing the International Criminal Court as an independent permanent judicial institution, and in this regard that the United Nations and the Court respect each other's status and mandate,

Reiterating the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute,

Emphasizing that justice, especially transitional justice in conflict and post-conflict societies, is a fundamental building block of sustainable peace,

Convinced that ending impunity is essential for coming to terms with any past crimes committed and preventing such crimes in the future,

Acknowledging the fact that the International Criminal Court has achieved considerable progress in its investigations and judicial proceedings in various situations and cases which were referred to it by States parties to the Rome Statute and by the Security Council, and which the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court has initiated *proprio motu*, in accordance with the Rome Statute,

Recalling that effective and comprehensive cooperation and assistance in all aspects of its mandate by States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations remain essential for the International Criminal Court to carry out its activities,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

14-60291 (E) 040914

Please recycle

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General for providing effective and efficient assistance to the International Criminal Court in accordance with the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court,[2]

Acknowledging the Relationship Agreement as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/318 of 13 September 2004, including paragraph 3 of the resolution, with respect to the payment in full of expenses accruing to the United Nations as a result of the implementation of the Relationship Agreement,[3] which provides a framework for continued cooperation between the International Criminal Court and the United Nations, which enables, inter alia, facilitation by the United Nations of the Court's field activities, and encouraging the conclusion of supplementary arrangements and agreements, as necessary,

Noting the need for funding of expenses related to investigations or prosecutions of the International Criminal Court, including in connection with situations referred to the Court by the Security Council,

Welcoming the continuous support given by civil society to the International Criminal Court,

Expressing its appreciation to the International Criminal Court for providing assistance to the Special Court for Sierra Leone,

Stressing the importance that the Rome Statute accords to the rights and needs of victims, in particular their right to participate in judicial proceedings and to claim reparations, and emphasizing the importance of informing and involving victims and affected communities in order to give effect to the mandate of the Court towards victims,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the International Criminal Court for 2012/13;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the States that have become parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[1] and calls upon all States in all regions of the world that are not yet parties to the Rome Statute to consider ratifying or acceding to it without delay;

3. *Welcomes* the States parties as well as States not parties to the Rome Statute that are parties to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court,[5] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to that Agreement;

4. *Notes* the recent ratifications of the amendments adopted at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute, held in Kampala, from 31 May to 11 June 2010;

5. *Underlines*, bearing in mind that in accordance with the Rome Statute the International Criminal Court is complementary to national criminal jurisdictions, that States need to adopt appropriate measures within their national legal systems for those crimes for which they are required under international law to exercise their responsibility to investigate and prosecute;

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[2] Ibid., vol. 2283, No. 1272.

[3] Articles 10 and 13 of the Relationship Agreement.

[4] A/68/314.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2271, No. 40446.

6. *Encourages* further efforts by the United Nations, other international and regional organizations and States, as well as civil society, to appropriately assist States, upon their request, in strengthening their domestic capacity to investigate and prosecute crimes, and in this regard underlines the importance of national ownership;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of international cooperation and judicial assistance in conducting effective investigations and prosecutions;

8. *Acknowledges* the role of the International Criminal Court in a multilateral system that aims to end impunity, promote the rule of law, promote and encourage respect for human rights, achieve sustainable peace and further the development of nations, in accordance with international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

9. *Calls upon* States parties to the Rome Statute that have not yet done so to adopt national legislation to implement obligations emanating from the Rome Statute and to cooperate with the International Criminal Court in the exercise of its functions, and recalls the provision of technical assistance by States parties in this respect;

10. *Welcomes* the cooperation and assistance provided thus far to the International Criminal Court by States parties as well as States not parties, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, and calls upon those States that are under an obligation to cooperate to provide such cooperation and assistance in the future, in particular with regard to arrest and surrender, the provision of evidence, the protection and relocation of victims and witnesses and the enforcement of sentences;

11. *Notes* the efforts of the Secretary-General in promoting cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court in accordance with the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court,[2] and also notes in this regard that the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat has a specific role within the United Nations;

12. *Recalls* article 3 of the Relationship Agreement according to which, with a view to facilitating the effective discharge of their respective responsibilities, the United Nations and the International Criminal Court shall cooperate closely, whenever appropriate, with each other and consult each other on matters of mutual interest pursuant to the provisions of the Relationship Agreement and in conformity with the respective provisions of the Charter and the Rome Statute, and shall respect each other's status and mandate,[6] and requests the Secretary-General to continue to include information relevant to the implementation of article 3 of the Relationship Agreement in a report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

13. *Takes note* of the guidance issued by the Secretary-General on contacts with persons who are the subject of arrest warrants or summonses issued by the International Criminal Court,[7] and also takes note in this regard of the information

[6] Article 2, paragraph 3, of the Relationship Agreement.

[7] A/67/828-S/2013/210, annex.

included in the report of the Secretary-General on article 3 of the Relationship Agreement;[8]

14. *Recalls* the Relationship Agreement, and notes that expenses related to investigations or prosecutions incurred by the Court in connection with situations referred by the Security Council or otherwise have been borne exclusively by States parties to the Rome Statute;

15. *Emphasizes* the importance of cooperation with States that are not parties to the Rome Statute;

16. *Invites* regional organizations to consider concluding cooperation agreements with the International Criminal Court;

17. *Recalls* that, by virtue of article 12, paragraph 3, of the Rome Statute, if the acceptance of a State which is not a party to the Rome Statute is required under article 12, paragraph 2, of the Rome Statute, that State may, by declaration lodged with the Registrar of the International Criminal Court, accept the exercise of jurisdiction by the Court with respect to the crime in question;

18. *Urges* all States parties to take the interests, needs for assistance and mandate of the International Criminal Court into account when relevant matters are being discussed in the United Nations, and invites all other States to consider doing the same, as appropriate;

19. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full implementation of all aspects of the Relationship Agreement, which forms a framework for close cooperation between the two organizations and for consultation on matters of mutual interest pursuant to the provisions of that Agreement and in conformity with the respective provisions of the Charter and the Rome Statute, as well as the need for the Secretary-General to continue to inform the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session of the expenses incurred and reimbursements received by the United Nations in connection with assistance provided to the International Criminal Court;

20. *Encourages* further dialogue between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court, and welcomes in this regard the increased interaction of the Security Council with the Court under various formats, including the holding of an open debate on peace and justice, with a special focus on the role of the Court;

21. *Continues to welcome* the statement by the President of the Security Council of 12 February 2013[9] in which the Council reiterated its previous call regarding the importance of State cooperation with the International Criminal Court in accordance with the respective obligations of States, and expressed its commitment to effective follow-up of Council decisions in this regard;

22. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work undertaken by the International Criminal Court liaison office to United Nations Headquarters, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to work closely with that office;

23. *Encourages* States to contribute to the Trust Fund established for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal

[8] A/68/364.

[9] S/PRST/2013/2.

Court and the families of such victims, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that Trust Fund thus far;

24. *Recalls* that, at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which was convened and opened by the Secretary-General, States parties reaffirmed their commitment to the Rome Statute and its full implementation, as well as its universality and integrity, and that the Review Conference undertook a stocktaking exercise of international criminal justice, considering the impact of the Rome Statute on victims and affected communities, peace and justice, complementarity and cooperation, called for the strengthening of the enforcement of sentences, adopted amendments to the Rome Statute to expand the jurisdiction of the Court to cover three additional war crimes when committed in armed conflicts not of an international character, adopted amendments to the Rome Statute to define the crime of aggression and to establish conditions under which the Court could exercise jurisdiction with respect to that crime;

25. *Acknowledges* the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization;[10]

26. *Takes note* of the decision of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court at its twelfth session, while recalling that, according to article 112, paragraph 6, of the Rome Statute, the Assembly of States Parties shall meet at the seat of the Court or at United Nations Headquarters, to hold its thirteenth session in New York and its fourteenth session in The Hague, looks forward to the thirteenth session, which is to be held from 8 to 17 December 2014, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and facilities in accordance with the Relationship Agreement and resolution 58/318;

27. *Encourages* the widest possible participation of States in the Assembly of States Parties, invites States to contribute to the Trust Fund for the participation of least developed countries, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that Trust Fund thus far;

28. *Invites* the International Criminal Court to submit, if it deems it appropriate, in accordance with article 6 of the Relationship Agreement, a report on its activities for 2013/14, for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session.

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[10] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/68/1).

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General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 75
Report of the International Criminal Court

Argentina, Australia, Japan, Netherlands, South Africa and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Report of the International Criminal Court

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and Uruguay

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General Assembly

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8 September 2014

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 13
2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, India, Malawi,* Poland, Portugal, Slovenia and United States of America: draft resolution

Consolidating gains and accelerating efforts to control and eliminate malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa, by 2015

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the period 2001-2010 was proclaimed by the General Assembly as the Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa,[1] and that combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases is included in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling also the malaria-related goals and commitments in the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[2]

Recalling further its resolution 67/299 of 16 September 2013 and all previous resolutions concerning the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa,

Recalling World Health Assembly resolutions 60.18 of 23 May 2007 and 64.17 of 24 May 2011, urging a broad range of national and international actions to scale up malaria control programmes,[3] and resolution 61.18 of 24 May 2008 on monitoring the achievement of health-related Millennium Development Goals,[4]

Recalling also the commitment made by African leaders to end the epidemic of malaria by ensuring universal and equitable access to quality health care and by

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States.

[1] Resolution 55/284.

[2] Resolution 65/1.

[3] See World Health Organization, documents WHASS1/2006-WHA60/2007/REC/1 and WHA64/2011/REC/1.

[4] See World Health Organization, document WHA61/2008/REC/1.

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improving health systems and health financing, contained in the Common African Position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council relating to the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular resolution 1998/36 of 30 July 1998,

Taking note of all declarations and decisions on health issues, in particular those related to malaria, adopted by the Organization of African Unity and the African Union, including the Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases, containing the pledge to allocate at least 15 per cent of national budgets to the health sector, the Abuja call for accelerated action towards universal access to HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria services in Africa, issued by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union at the special summit of the African Union on HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja from 2 to 4 May 2006, the decision of the Assembly of the African Union at its fifteenth ordinary session, held in Kampala from 25 to 27 July 2010, to extend the Abuja call to 2015 to coincide with the Millennium Development Goals, and the declaration of the special summit of the African Union on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja from 12 to 16 July 2013,

Recognizing the leadership provided by the African Leaders Malaria Alliance and the continued commitment to help to achieve the 2015 targets, and encouraging the members of the Alliance to continue to provide political leadership at the highest level in the fight against malaria in Africa,

Welcoming the creation of the Asia-Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance, recognizing the leadership and commitment of the Alliance to achieve the 2015 targets, and encouraging the members of the Alliance to continue to provide political leadership at the highest level in the fight against malaria in the Asia-Pacific region,

Taking note of the World Health Organization framework for action for an emergency response to artemisinin resistance in the Greater Mekong subregion of South-East Asia, launched in April 2013,

Welcoming the selection by the Secretary-General of malaria as one of the top priorities of his second mandate and his commitment to develop new partnerships and improve existing ones and to scale up high-impact interventions aimed at significantly reducing the number of deaths from malaria,

Recognizing the linkages among efforts being made to reach the targets set at the Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Abuja on 24 and 25 April 2000, as necessary and important for the attainment of the "Roll Back Malaria" goal[5] and the targets of the Millennium Development Goals by 2010 and 2015, respectively, and welcoming in this regard the commitment of Member States to respond to the specific needs of Africa,

Recognizing also that malaria-related ill health and deaths throughout the world can be substantially reduced with political commitment and commensurate resources if the public is educated and sensitized about malaria and appropriate

[5] A/55/240/Add.1, annex.

health services are made available, particularly in countries where the disease is endemic,

Recognizing further that malaria control interventions have a positive impact on overall child and maternal mortality rates and could help African countries and other malaria-endemic countries to reach Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5 of reducing child mortality and improving maternal health, respectively, by 2015,

Acknowledging the progress made in parts of Africa in reversing the high burden of malaria through political engagement and sustainable national malaria control programmes, as well as the progress being made towards achieving by 2015 the goals concerning malaria control set by the World Health Assembly and the Roll Back Malaria Partnership,

Recognizing that, despite the fact that increased global and national investments in malaria control have yielded significant results in decreasing the burden of malaria in many countries and that some countries are moving towards the elimination of malaria, many countries continue to have unacceptably high burdens of malaria and in order to reach internationally agreed development goals, including the health-related Millennium Development Goals, must rapidly increase malaria prevention and control efforts, which rely heavily on medicines and insecticides whose utility is continuously threatened by the development of resistance in humans to antimalarial agents, as well as resistance of mosquitoes to insecticides,

Aware that recent successes in prevention and control are fragile and can be maintained only with sufficient and sustained national and international investment to fund global malaria control efforts fully,

Recognizing the serious challenges relating to substandard, falsified and counterfeit drugs, as well as poor malaria diagnostics,

Expressing concern about the continued morbidity, mortality and debility attributed to malaria, and recalling that more efforts are needed if the Abuja malaria targets and the malaria and Millennium Development Goal targets for 2015 are to be reached on time,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening health systems to effectively sustain malaria control and elimination,

Commending the efforts of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the World Bank and other partners to fight malaria over the years,

Taking note with appreciation of the Global Malaria Action Plan developed by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership,

1. *Welcomes* the report prepared by the World Health Organization,[6] and calls for support for the implementation of the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Calls for* increased support for the implementation of international commitments and goals pertaining to the fight to eliminate malaria as stipulated in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

[6] See A/68/854.

3. *Encourages* Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, international institutions, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and civil society to continue to observe World Malaria Day on 25 April in order to raise public awareness of and knowledge about the prevention, control and treatment of malaria as well as the importance of meeting the Millennium Development Goals, and stresses the importance of engaging local communities in this regard;

4. *Encourages* the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Malaria to continue raising issues relating to malaria in collaboration with other United Nations organizations already working on those issues in the context of the international political and development agendas and to work with national and global leaders to intensify efforts to secure the political commitment, partnerships and funds to drastically reduce malaria deaths by 2015 through increased access to prevention, diagnosis and treatment, especially in Africa;

5. *Welcomes* the increased funding, while recognizing the need for additional funding, for malaria interventions and for research and development of preventive, diagnostic and control tools from the international community, through funding from multilateral and bilateral sources and from the private sector, as well as by making predictable financing available through appropriate and effective aid modalities and in-country health financing mechanisms aligned with national priorities, which are key to strengthening health systems, including malaria surveillance, and promoting universal and equitable access to high-quality malaria prevention, diagnostic and treatment services, and noting in this regard that a high level of external assistance per person at risk for malaria is associated with a decrease in the incidence of the disease;

6. *Urges* the international community, United Nations agencies and private organizations and foundations to support the implementation of the Global Malaria Action Plan, including through support for programmes and activities at the country level in order to achieve internationally agreed targets on malaria;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to support the secretariat of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership and partner organizations, including the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the United Nations Children's Fund, as vital complementary sources of support for the efforts of malaria-endemic countries to combat the disease;

8. *Urges* the international community to work in a spirit of cooperation towards effective, increased, harmonized, predictable and sustained bilateral and multilateral assistance and research to combat malaria, including support for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, in order to assist States, in particular malaria-endemic countries, to implement sound national plans, in particular health plans and sanitation plans, including malaria control and elimination strategies which may include evidence-based, cost-effective and context-appropriate environmental management solutions, and integrated management of childhood illnesses, in a sustained and equitable way that, inter alia, contributes to strengthening health system development approaches at the district level;

9. *Appeals* to the malaria partners to resolve the financial, supply chain and delivery bottlenecks that are responsible for stock-outs of long-lasting insecticide-

treated nets, rapid diagnostic tests and artemisinin-based combination therapies at the national level, whenever they occur, including through the strengthening of malaria programme management at the country level;

10. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of additional and predictable resources for development by voluntary innovative financing initiatives taken by groups of Member States, and in this regard notes the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, the International Finance Facility for Immunization, the advance market commitments for vaccines, the GAVI Alliance and the Affordable Medicines Facility for Malaria pilot, and expresses support for the work of the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development and its special task force on innovative financing for health;

11. *Urges* malaria-endemic countries to work towards financial sustainability, to increase, to the extent possible, national resources allocated to malaria control and to create favourable conditions for working with the private sector in order to improve access to good-quality malaria services;

12. *Urges* Member States to assess and respond to the needs for integrated human resources at all levels of the health system in order to achieve the targets of the Abuja Declaration on "Roll Back Malaria in Africa"[5] and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, to take action, as appropriate, to effectively govern the recruitment, training and retention of skilled health personnel, and to give particular focus to the availability of skilled personnel at all levels to meet technical and operational needs as increased funding for malaria control programmes becomes available;

13. *Urges* the international community, inter alia, to support the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to enable it to meet its financial needs and, through country-led initiatives with adequate international support, to intensify access to affordable, safe and effective antimalarial treatments, including artemisinin-based combination therapies, intermittent preventive therapies for pregnant women, children under 5 and infants, adequate diagnostic facilities, long-lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets, including, where appropriate, through the free distribution of such nets and, where appropriate, to insecticides for indoor residual spraying for malaria control, taking into account relevant international rules, including the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants[7] standards and guidelines;

14. *Requests* relevant international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to assist the efforts of national Governments to provide universal access to malaria control interventions to address all at-risk populations, in particular young children and pregnant women, in malaria-endemic countries, particularly in Africa, as rapidly as possible, with due regard to ensuring the proper use of those interventions, including long-lasting insecticide-treated nets, and sustainability through full community participation and implementation through the health system;

15. *Calls upon* Member States, in particular malaria-endemic countries, with the support of the international community, to establish and/or strengthen national policies, operational plans and research, with a view to scaling up efforts to achieve

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2256, No. 40214.

internationally agreed malaria targets for 2015, in accordance with the technical recommendations of the World Health Organization;

16. *Commends* those African countries that have implemented the recommendations of the Abuja Summit in 2000 to reduce or waive taxes and tariffs for nets and other products needed for malaria control,[5] and encourages other countries to do the same;

17. *Calls upon* United Nations agencies and their partners to continue to provide the technical support necessary to build and enhance the capacity of Member States to implement the Global Malaria Action Plan and meet the internationally agreed goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and looks forward to the timely completion of the second edition of the Global Malaria Action Plan;

18. *Expresses deep concern* about emerging drug and insecticide resistance in several regions of the world, calls upon Member States, with support from the World Health Organization and other partners, to implement the Global Plan for Artemisinin Resistance Containment and the Global Plan for Insecticide Resistance Management in Malaria Vectors and to strengthen and implement surveillance systems for monitoring and assessing changing patterns of drug and insecticide resistance, calls upon the World Health Organization to support Member States in the development of their national insecticide resistance management strategies and to coordinate support at the international level for countries to ensure that drug efficacy and insecticide resistance testing is fully operational in order to enhance the use of artemisinin-based combination therapies and insecticides, and stresses that the data gathered should be utilized for further research and development of safe and effective therapies and vector control tools;

19. *Urges* all Member States to prohibit the marketing and use of oral artemisinin-based monotherapies and to replace them with oral artemisinin-based combination therapies, as recommended by the World Health Organization, and to develop the financial, legislative and regulatory mechanisms necessary to introduce artemisinin combination therapies at affordable prices in both public and private facilities;

20. *Recognizes* the importance of the development of safe and cost-effective vaccines and new medicines to prevent and treat malaria and the need for further and accelerated research, including into safe, effective and high-quality therapies, using rigorous standards, including by providing support to the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases,[8] through effective global partnerships, such as the various malaria vaccine initiatives and the Medicines for Malaria Venture, where necessary stimulated by new incentives to secure their development, and through effective and timely support for the pre-qualification of new antimalarials and their combinations;

21. *Calls upon* the international community, including through existing partnerships, to increase investment in and efforts towards research to optimize current tools, develop and validate new, safe and affordable malaria-related medicines, products and technologies, such as vaccines, rapid diagnostic tests,

[8] A joint programme of the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the World Health Organization.

insecticides and their delivery modes, to prevent and treat malaria, especially for at risk children and pregnant women, and testing opportunities for integration in order to enhance effectiveness and delay the onset of resistance;

22. *Calls upon* malaria-endemic countries to assure favourable conditions for research institutions, including the allocation of adequate resources and the development of national policies and legal frameworks, where appropriate, with a view to, inter alia, informing policy formulation and strategic interventions on malaria;

23. *Reaffirms* the right to use, to the fullest extent, the provisions contained in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 30 August 2003 on the implementation of paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, and, when formal acceptance procedures are completed, the amendment to article 31 of the Agreement, which provide flexibilities for the protection of public health, and in particular to promote access to medicines for all and to encourage the provision of assistance to developing countries in this regard, and calls for the broad and timely acceptance of the amendment to article 31 of the Agreement, as proposed by the General Council of the World Trade Organization in its decision of 6 December 2005;

24. *Recognizes* the importance in the struggle against malaria of the World Health Organization Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property, adopted by the World Health Assembly on 24 May 2008;

25. *Calls upon* malaria-endemic countries, development partners and the international community to support the timely replacement of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets in accordance with the recommendations of the World Health Organization on the service lives of such nets in order to prevent the risk of malaria resurgence and a reversal of the gains made to date;

26. *Calls upon* the international community to support ways to expand access to affordable, effective and safe products and treatments, such as vector control measures, including indoor residual spraying, long-lasting insecticide-treated nets, including through the free distribution of such nets, adequate diagnostic facilities, intermittent preventive therapies for pregnant women, children under 5 and infants, and artemisinin-based combination therapy for populations at risk of falciparum malaria infection in endemic countries, particularly in Africa, including through additional funds and innovative mechanisms, inter alia, for the financing and scaling up of artemisinin production and procurement, as appropriate, to meet the increased need;

27. *Recognizes* the impact of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, and welcomes the increased level of public-private partnerships for malaria control and prevention, including the financial and in-kind contributions of private sector partners and companies operating in Africa, as well as the increased engagement of non-governmental service providers;

28. *Encourages* the producers of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets to continue to accelerate technology transfer to developing countries, and invites the

World Bank and regional development funds to consider supporting malaria-endemic countries in establishing factories to scale up production of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets;

29. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community, especially malaria-endemic countries, in accordance with existing guidelines and recommendations of the World Health Organization and the requirements of the Stockholm Convention related to the use of DDT, to become fully knowledgeable about the technical policies and strategies of the World Health Organization and the provisions of the Stockholm Convention, including for indoor residual spraying, long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and case management, intermittent preventive therapies for pregnant women, children under 5 and infants and monitoring of in vivo resistance studies to artemisinin-based combination therapies, as well as to increase capacity for the safe, effective and judicious use of indoor residual spraying and other forms of vector control, including quality control measures, in accordance with international rules, standards and guidelines;

30. *Requests* the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and donor agencies to provide support to those countries that choose to use DDT for indoor residual spraying so as to ensure that it is implemented in accordance with international rules, standards and guidelines, and to provide all possible support to malaria-endemic countries to manage the intervention effectively and prevent the contamination, in particular, of agricultural products with DDT and other insecticides used for indoor residual spraying;

31. *Encourages* the World Health Organization and its member States, with the support of the parties to the Stockholm Convention, to continue to explore possible alternatives to DDT as a vector control agent;

32. *Recognizes* the importance of a multisectoral strategy to advance global control efforts, invites malaria-endemic countries to consider adopting and implementing the Multisectoral Action Framework for Malaria developed by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership and the United Nations Development Programme, and encourages regional and intersectoral collaboration, both public and private, at all levels, especially in education, health, agriculture, economic development and the environment, to advance malaria control objectives;

33. *Also recognizes* the need to strengthen malaria surveillance and data quality in all endemic regions to enable Member States to direct financial resources to the populations most in need and to respond effectively to disease outbreaks;

34. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community to strengthen mechanisms for country-based coordination of technical assistance to achieve alignment of the best approaches to implement World Health Organization technical guidance and to mobilize to support the sharing and analysis of best practices to address urgent programmatic challenges, to improve monitoring and evaluation and to conduct regular financial planning and gap analysis;

35. *Encourages* sharing, across regions, of knowledge, experience and lessons learned with regard to the control and elimination of malaria, particularly between the Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America regions;

36. *Calls upon* the international community to support the strengthening of health systems, national pharmaceutical policies and national drug regulatory

authorities, to monitor and fight against the trade in counterfeit and substandard antimalarial medicines and prevent their distribution and use and to support coordinated efforts, inter alia, by providing technical assistance to improve surveillance, monitoring and evaluation systems and their alignment with national plans and systems so as to better track and report changes in coverage, the need for scaling up recommended interventions and the subsequent reductions in the burden of malaria;

37. *Urges* Member States, the international community and all relevant actors, including the private sector, to promote the coordinated implementation and enhance the quality of malaria-related activities, including through the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, in accordance with national policies and operational plans that are consistent with the technical recommendations of the World Health Organization and recent efforts and initiatives, including, where appropriate, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action, adopted at the Third High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Accra from 2 to 4 September 2008;[9]

38. *Recognizes* the need for political commitment and financial support beyond 2015 to sustain and expand the achievements in the struggle against malaria and to meet the international malaria targets through prevention and malaria control efforts to end the epidemic, while acknowledging the remarkable progress in combating malaria to date;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director General of the World Health Organization and in consultation with Member States, to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution, and specifically on progress towards achieving the 2015 targets of the Abuja Declaration and those of the Global Malaria Action Plan and Millennium Development Goal 6, including identification of best practices and successes and specific challenges limiting the achievement of the targets and, taking these into account, to provide recommendations to ensure that the targets are reached by 2015.

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[9] A/63/539, annex.

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 13
2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, India, Malawi,* Poland, Portugal, Slovenia and United States of America: draft resolution

Consolidating gains and accelerating efforts to control and eliminate malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa, by 2015

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Brazil, Denmark, Finland, Israel, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States.

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United Nations A/68/L.61

General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 14
Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/288

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", contained in resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, in which Heads of State and Government, inter alia, resolved to establish an inclusive and transparent intergovernmental process on sustainable development goals open to all stakeholders, with a view to developing global sustainable development goals to be agreed by the General Assembly,

1. *Acknowledges* the conclusion of the work of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, and welcomes its report;[1]

2. *Decides* that the proposal of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals contained in the report shall be the basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda, while recognizing fully that other inputs may also be considered in this intergovernmental negotiation process at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly.

[1] See A/68/970. Reservations by Member States to the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals are referred to in A/68/970, sect. III, para. 13.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 19 (a)
Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Four one-day structured dialogues on possible arrangements for a facilitation mechanism to promote the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the convening of four structured dialogues on possible arrangements for a facilitation mechanism to promote the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies, on 29 and 30 April, 4 June and 23 July 2014, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/210 of 20 December 2013,

Taking note of the summary prepared by the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly of the discussions and recommendations that emerged from the four one-day structured dialogues to consider possible arrangements for a facilitation mechanism to promote clean and environmentally sound technologies, held during the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly,

Noting the views expressed by and the active participation of Member States and other stakeholders, as well as experts and panellists, during the dialogues,

1. *Requests* the President of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly to continue consultations based on the above-mentioned recommendations prepared by the President of the sixty-eighth session with the aim of reaching a conclusion at the sixty-ninth session in the context of the post-2015 development agenda;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General to take into account the recommendations that emerged from the structured dialogues on possible arrangements for a facilitation mechanism to promote the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies, contained in the summary prepared by the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, when preparing his synthesis report.

14-60781 (E) 120914

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